

**Listing and Amendments to the Claims**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A video playback apparatus having means to invoke one of a replay function and a reverse function upon receipt of a first signal, wherein said replay function is activated in response to said first signal exhibiting a first duration of time and wherein said reverse function is activated in response to said first signal exhibiting a second duration of time different from said first duration~~-in response to a duration of the first signal~~, and means to invoke one of a skip function and a forward function upon receipt of a second signal different from the first signal, wherein said skip function is activated in response to said second signal exhibiting a third duration of time and wherein said forward function is activated in response to said second signal exhibiting a fourth duration of time different from said third duration~~-in response to a duration of the second signal~~.
2. (Previously Presented) The video playback apparatus of claim 1 wherein the replay function is invoked upon receipt of the first signal exhibiting said duration of time below a first replay-reverse predetermined threshold, and the reverse function with a first reverse speed is invoked upon receipt of the first signal exhibiting said duration of time above the first replay-reverse predetermined threshold, and wherein the skip function is invoked upon receipt of the second signal exhibiting said duration of time below a first skip-forward predetermined threshold and a first forward function with a first forward speed is invoked upon receipt of the second signal exhibiting said duration of time above the first skip-forward predetermined threshold.
3. (Original) The video playback apparatus of claim 2 wherein the first skip-forward predetermined threshold is one second and the first replay-reverse predetermined threshold is one second.

4. (Previously Presented) The video playback apparatus of claim 3 wherein the reverse function has the first reverse speed and a second reverse speed faster than the first reverse speed, and upon receipt of the first signal exhibiting said duration of time greater than the first replay-reverse predetermined threshold, the first reverse speed is invoked, and upon receipt of the first signal exhibiting said duration greater than a second replay-reverse predetermined threshold, the second reverse speed is invoked.

5. (Previously Presented) The video playback apparatus of claim 3 wherein the forward function has the first forward speed and a second forward speed faster than the first forward speed, and upon receipt of the first occurrence of the second signal exhibiting said duration of time greater than the first skip-forward predetermined threshold, the first forward speed is invoked, and upon receipt of the second signal exhibiting said duration greater than a second skip-forward predetermined threshold greater than the first skip-forward predetermined threshold, the second forward speed is invoked.

6. (Previously Presented) The video playback apparatus of claim 5 wherein upon receipt of the second signal exhibiting said duration greater than a next greater skip-forward predetermined threshold, the next faster forward speed is invoked, up to the highest available forward speed.

7. (Previously Presented) The video playback apparatus of claim 5 wherein the second forward predetermined threshold is at least one second greater than the first forward predetermined threshold.

8. (Previously Presented) The video playback apparatus of claim 4 wherein upon receipt of the first signal exhibiting said duration greater than a next greater replay-reverse predetermined threshold, the next faster reverse speed is invoked, up to the highest available reverse speed.

9. (Previously Presented) The video playback apparatus of claim 4 wherein the second replay-reverse predetermined threshold is at least one second greater than the first replay-reverse predetermined threshold.

10. (Previously Presented) The video playback apparatus of claim 1 having 2X, 4X, 8X, and 16X forward speeds and -2X, -4X, -8X, and -16X reverse speeds.

11. (Previously Presented) The video playback apparatus of claim 1 wherein duration of a remote control signal selected from the first signal and the second signal is calculated based on number of repetitions of code signal included in the remote control signal received, each repetition separated by a predetermined gap.

12. (Original) The video playback apparatus of claim 11 wherein the predetermined gap is between 1 and 10 milliseconds.

13. (Previously Presented) The video playback apparatus of claim 11 wherein an end of a remote control signal is calculated upon a gap between repetitions of receipt of a code signal of greater than 20 milliseconds in the remote control signal.

14. (Original) The video playback apparatus of claim 1 having one or more functionalities in addition to video playback, the functionalities selected from DSL, integrated receiver-decoder, WinTV, and personal computer.

15. (Previously Presented) A remote control device for use with a video playback apparatus of claim 1 having a replay-reverse multipurpose key and a skip-forward multipurpose key for generating the first signal and the second signal, respectively, when activated.

16. (Previously Presented) The remote control device of claim 15 having means to send the first signal when the replay-reverse multipurpose key is pressed and the second signal when the skip-forward multipurpose key is pressed.

17. (Previously Presented) The remote control device of claim 15 having means to send repetitions of the first signal when the replay-reverse multipurpose key is activated and

to send repetitions of the second signal when the skip-forward multipurpose key is activated, each repetition separated by a predetermined gap.

18. (Original) The remote control device of claim 17 wherein the predetermined gap is between 1 and 10 milliseconds.

19. (Original) The remote control device of claim 17 wherein the predetermined gap is about 2 milliseconds.

20. (Previously Presented) A system comprising a video playback apparatus according to claim 1 and a remote control device having a replay-reverse multipurpose key for generating the first signal and a skip-forward multipurpose key for generating the second signal.

21. (Previously Presented) A method of controlling operation of a digital video playback apparatus, the method comprising the steps of:

invoking a skip function upon receipt of a second signal exhibiting less than a first predetermined duration, invoking a forward function exhibiting a first forward speed upon receipt of the second signal exhibiting greater than the first predetermined duration, invoking the forward function exhibiting a second, faster forward speed upon receipt of either the second signal exhibiting greater than a second predetermined duration or upon receipt of a second occurrence of the second signal; and

invoking a replay function upon receipt of a first signal exhibiting less than a first predetermined duration, invoking a reverse function exhibiting a first reverse speed upon receipt of the first signal exhibiting greater than the first predetermined duration, invoking the reverse function exhibiting a second, faster reverse speed upon receipt of either the first signal exhibiting greater than a second predetermined duration or upon receipt of a second occurrence of the first signal.

22. (Currently Amended) A electronic playback apparatus capable of receiving an external speed control signal for controlling playback speed, the electronic playback apparatus comprising:

a receiver for receiving the external speed control signal, the external speed control signal exhibiting one of a first duration of time and at least a second duration of time, wherein the first duration is different from the second duration;

a microprocessor for varying selecting the playback speed according to the duration of the external speed control signal wherein a first playback speed is selected in response to the external speed control signal exhibiting the first duration of time and wherein a second playback speed different from the first playback speed is selected in response to the external speed control signal exhibiting the second duration of time.

23. (Original) The electronic playback apparatus of claim 22, wherein the playback speed is forward speed.

24. (Original) The electronic playback apparatus of claim 22, wherein the playback speed is reverse speed.

25. (Original) The electronic playback apparatus of claim 22, wherein the external speed control signal is a signal generated by holding down a key for a skip-forward function.

26. (Original) The electronic playback apparatus of claim 22, wherein the external speed control signal is a signal generated by holding down a key for a play function.

27. (Original) The electronic playback apparatus of claim 22, wherein the external speed control signal is a signal generated by holding down a key for a replay-reverse function.